M. William Shak-ſpeare

HIS Hiſtorie, of King Lear.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Enter Kent, Gloſter, and Baſtard.

Kent.

I Thought the King had more affected the Duke of *Albany* then *Cornwell.*

Gloſt. It did allwaies ſeeme ſo to vs, but now in the diuiſion of the kingdomes, it appeares not which of the Dukes he values moſt, for equalities are ſo weighed, that curioſitie in neither, can make choiſe of eithers moytie.

Kent. Is not this your ſonne my Lord?

Gloſt. His breeding ſir hath beene at my charge, I haue ſo often bluſht to acknowledge him, that now I am braz'd to it.

Kent. I cannot conceiue you.

Gloſt. Sir, this young fellowes mother Could, whereupon ſhee grew round wombed, and had indeed Sir a ſonne for her cradle, ere ſhe had a huſband for her bed, doe you ſmell a fault?

Kent. I cannot wiſh the fault vndone, the iſſue of it being ſo proper.

Gloſt. But I haue ſir a ſonne by order of Law, ſome yeare elder then this, who yet is no deerer in my account, though this knaue came ſomething ſawcely into the world before hee was ſent for, yet was his mother faire, there was good ſport at his makeing, & the whoreſon muſt be acknowledged, do you know this noble gentleman *Edmund*?